

AGENDA
SWAG – Exempt Wells Subcommittee
November 9, 2006 10:00 AM
ADWR 3550 N. Central
Phoenix AZ

Item 1: Past and Present Activities Related to Exempt Well Issues

- Governor's Groundwater Management Commission
- Arizona Policy Institute
- Prescott AMA Safe-Yield Subcommittee

Item 2: Framing Issues (Review from last meeting)

- Possible need to grandfather existing exempt wells and focus on managing future wells
- Lack of well spacing requirements
 - impacts water service provider's ability to drill their own wells
 - health and welfare – distance between wells and septic systems
- Environmental impacts of exempt wells (specifically streams and riparian areas)
- Fairness between similar water users – i.e. domestic exempt well users are not required to adhere to conservation requirements while domestic users on a water system do. Similarly, regulated water users must meet management goals while exempt well users do not.
- Impacts to downstream water rights and total water budget
- Lack of adequate information about exempt well uses including water returned to the aquifer through septic systems
- Define elements that are important to exempt well owners
 - Ability to protect their well from impacts by other wells
 - Security gained from having a legal water supply (not threatened by Adjudication)
 - No mandatory metering
 - Don't want restrictions on water use
 - ????
- Political Realities
- Consumer Protection?
- Ensure existing Legislation is maintained

Item 3: Can we quantify or otherwise characterize the extent of the problems created by exempt wells? (Create a matrix based on the following)

- Is it a current problem
- Is it predicted to be a problem in the future
- Is it perceived to be a problem in the future
- ????